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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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Action 64033 ¹² CONFIDENTIAL

Control: 23061
Rec'd: April 27, 1965
4:29 p.m.

SDO-1

RF
ONE

EUR FROM: Copenhagen
Info
SS ACTION: Secstate 799
G
SP INFO: Prague 2
SAH Bonn 81
H Paris 133
P Oslo 75
USIA Stockholm 137
NSC Helsinki 60
INR Reykjavik 45
CIA Moscow 39
NSA
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DATE: April 27, 5 p.m.

RMR PARIS FOR USRO, BURNS AND JAMES.

Czechoslovakia diplomat and West German caught in espionage.

Two afternoon papers April 26 (Conservative TABLOID B.T. and Conservative BERLINGSKE AFTENAVIS) and most papers April 27 gave front-page treatment to espionage matter involving Josef Lensky (Third Secretary in Commercial Section, Czechoslovak Embassy) and unnamed West German citizen. According press accounts, pair "caught red-handed" Danish security police April 24 in process exchanging microfilm and documents on park bench in Northern suburb of Copenhagen. Espionage reportedly does not "directly involve Danish interests" but concerns West German Defense and NATO Forces in West Germany. Information intended for use of "important big power in East". West German to be turned over to West German authorities who apparently have had him under observation for sometime.

Foreign Office Secretary General Paul Fisher called in Czechoslovakia Ambassador April 25 to inform him Lensky had used Danish territory to conduct illegal intelligence

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-2- 799 April 27, From Copenhagen

directed against allied defense interests. Fisher requested Lensky depart Denmark by April 30 at latest. In statement to Ritzau's Wire Service, Czechoslovakian Jaroslav Smid said Foreign Office request would be complied with. He added lamely he "did not understand Foreign Office request" and it "seemed to him police had made mistake." BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (Conservative) carried fullest account affair and reminded readers that as recently as last November, three members Polish Embassy here had been expelled for espionage against NATO (see Embassy telegram 511 of December 22). Paper concluded: "only one thing certain: Copenhagen is Eldorado for foreign spies contact activities."

Comment: According CAS, Lensky expulsion had to be personally approved by Foreign Minister Haekkerup. Justice Ministry had privately expressed doubt Foreign Minister would give his okay in view his coming visit to Czechoslovakia, but Haekkerup had said go ahead. Crackdown by security police serves as occasional reminder to Soviet bloc they cannot operate with impunity in Denmark.

GP-3.

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